

# CESTODES FROM AFRICAN RATS

BY

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## 1. *Davainea celebensis*, Janicki, 1902

Four specimens and some fragments were collected from a rat, *Mus rattus*, by Dr. J. W. S. Macfie, at Accra, March 26th, 1921.

This species was first obtained from *Mus meyeri* in the Celebes, and Janicki, in his account of its anatomy, says nothing about the head. We therefore give the following description:—

The head measures about  $150\mu$  long and  $650\mu$  broad. The suckers are about  $170\mu$  in diameter and are unarmed. The rostellum is small, measuring about  $70\mu$  in diameter, and is armed with a single row of 60 hammer-shaped hooks measuring about  $12\mu$ .

The neck is about 3 mm. long.

Führmann has recently split up the genus *Davainea* into four genera, one of which (i.e., *Railletina*, nom.nov.) he has further divided into four sub-genera. Of these sub-genera, our species falls under *Ransomia*, and the worm is accordingly named *Ransomia celebensis* (Janicki).

2. *Zschokkeella guineensis* (Graham), 1909  
 = *Thysanosoma gambianum*, Beddard, 1911  
 = *Thysanotaenia gambiana*, Beddard, 1911  
 = *Zschokkeella gambiana*, Beddard, 1912.

Graham, in the 'Report on Plague in the Gold Coast in 1908,' was apparently the first to refer to this species; he named it *Davainea (Guineensis, sp.nov.)* [sic].

Beddard, describing in 1911 the same worm from the same host, and also from the same area, was apparently unaware of Graham's paper and gave it the name *Thysanosoma gambiana*; later in the year he changed the name to *Thysanotaenia gambiana*, and in 1912 to *Zschokkeella gambiana*. According to the rules of nomenclature this worm now becomes *Zschokkeella guineensis* (Graham), Beddard, 1912.

In our collection we have about 600 specimens from the following sources :—

(1) From pouched rat, *Cricetomys gambianus*, Accra, December, 1914, and February, 1915. Collected by Dr. J. W. S. Macfie.

(2) From *Mus rattus* and *Mus decumanus*, Accra. No date. Collected by Dr. J. W. S. Macfie.

#### REFERENCES

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